

that's a good thing, the leaders of the two countries.

But we will begin our discussions first on July 8th. And what we hope to do is to find ways to broaden this debate because really what this is about is, even more than the nuclear weapons, is what role will North Korea assume in the future? What is the vision of the leaders of North Korea for that nation at the turn of the century or 20 years from now? Should it be an isolated country that makes money from selling No Dong missiles and low-level nuclear materials? Or should it be a country that is in harmony with its neighbors and friends, using the industry and ability of its people to strengthen trade and commerce and the personal development of its people?

To me that's an easy question to answer. If there is no threat to North Korea's security, if we mean them no ill, if Japan, if South Korea, if Russia, if China, if all of its neighbors wish to be partners in a more open world, and if the United States has that wish, then surely we should be able to work this problem out. That is my hope and my objective.

### **World Cup Soccer**

**Q.** Mr. President, thank you. The last question is, who's going to win the World Cup, except the U.S.? [Laughter] I know that your daughter plays soccer.

**The President.** Yes. Well, if I take a position on that—you know, every time I take a position at home, I make a few million people mad. Now, if I take a position on that, I will make billions of people angry.

**Q.** [Inaudible]—chance.

**The President.** That's right. I have quite enough—

**Q.** [Inaudible]—in the world—

**The President.** I have quite enough controversy without that. I'm still pulling for the United States, you know. I like the underdogs when they fight. And we—this is the first time we've ever made the second round, I think.

**Q.** Yes, it's the first time in history.

**The President.** Yes. And we didn't want to be the first host team never to make the second round. And we're playing better than

expectations. So I'm going to keep cheering for the U.S. until we're eliminated.

NOTE: The interview began at 12:55 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In the interview, the President referred to Joachim Bitterlich, director of the foreign policy, development aid, and security policy division, Federal Chancellery of Germany. This interview was embargoed for release by the Office of the Press Secretary until July 4.

### **Remarks on Independence Day**

*July 4, 1994*

**The President.** Hello. Happy Fourth of July. Let me just say, part of this wonderful celebration—can you hear?

**Audience members.** Yes.

**The President.** Part of this wonderful celebration is music, fireworks, family, friends, no speeches. But I just want to welcome you here tonight and say what an immense pleasure and pride it is for Hillary and for me to have you here. We hope you enjoy the fireworks. We're proud to have you here on the grounds of your house and hope that you feel it is your house.

And let me just say one little thing seriously. Every Fourth of July, I try to take a little time to think about what this country means in a special way. And today, I finished a biography I've been reading of our second President, John Adams. He's the first person who ever lived in this house, in 1800. He died on the 50th anniversary of our Declaration of Independence, on July the 4th, 1826, the same day President Jefferson died. They were great friends. And they died, on the same day, as they had lived: loving this country. And what I want to ask all of you to think about is what we can do to make sure that this country's still here 200 years from now. That's our job.

Thank you. God bless you. Have a great night.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House.

## Interview With Tomasz Lis of Polish Television

July 1, 1994

### Poland-U.S. Relations

**Mr. Lis.** Mr. President, what is the most important message you would like to bring to Poland?

**The President.** That the United States and Poland are bound together, our futures are bound together; we're bound together by affection, by family ties, by our comradeship in World War II, and by our devotion to the constitutional idea of government, but that we have a very important future, and we need to build that future together.

### NATO and the Partnership For Peace

**Mr. Lis.** In January in Prague, you said that there was no question if NATO should be expanded, the only question was when and how. Could you make that step forward and say when and how?

**The President.** Well, first of all, I have to make sure there is an agreement among the NATO members about what exactly the standards should be and the timetable. And they haven't all agreed. But I do want to make it clear that, in my view, NATO will be expanded, that it should be expanded, and that it should be expanded as a way of strengthening security and not conditioned on events in any other country or some new threat arising to NATO.

The Partnership For Peace is actually exceeding my hopes for its success. We now have 21 countries signed up, 19 who were in the former Communist bloc and Sweden and Finland. And we are going to hold our first exercises, as you know, in Poland, which I hope will send a message about how important I think Poland is to the future security of Europe and our future alliance.

**Mr. Lis.** But will you give Poland and other Eastern European countries a clear timetable for becoming full members of NATO? Because maybe that's the only way to—

**The President.** I think that a timetable should be developed, but I can't do that alone. NATO is an alliance. There are many partners in it, and we have to discuss that

among ourselves and to reach agreement on exactly how this staging should be done.

Last year—or earlier this year when I met with the NATO members, they felt very strongly that we should first have these exercises, these Partnership For Peace exercises, and we should gauge the nature of our security cooperation with all of the people in the Partnership and then see which people in the Partnership really wanted to become members and who was ready and then come back and meet and determine what the standards should be. So I think that probably won't be done until sometime next year, because of the feeling of all the NATO members about it.

### Russia

**Mr. Lis.** What can the United States do to promote friendly links with Russia and, on the other hand, to enhance Poland's and Central Europe's security?

**The President.** I think we're doing both those things now. I think we can promote our friendship with Russia by working to develop Russia, by helping to diffuse our tensions. Our nuclear weapons are no longer pointed at each other, for the first time since the end of World War II. We are working together to try to solve the conflict in Bosnia. So I think in all those ways we can work together. We have a commission between the Prime Minister of Russia and our Vice President working on matters of defense conversion and environmental technology and energy and things of that kind. So we have a good, broad-based relationship with Russia.

But we have to pursue independently our relationships with Poland, with Central and Eastern Europe. And I think that the security issue is one; that's why we pushed so hard for the Partnership For Peace. Also our economic issue is another where we have—the United States provides, I think, about 44 percent of total outside investment in Poland. And we know we need to do more in Central and Eastern Europe than we have done, and we will do more. There are limits to what we can do, but we will do more. I think we have to pursue that totally independently of our growing relationship with Russia.

**Mr. Lis.** But Mr. President, you have a vision of an undivided, integrated Europe.